

**To: Members of the Education Committee**

**Re: In Support of Raised Bill number 1106, AN ACT CONCERNING THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILD  
DEVELOPMENT**

**Date: March 7, 2011**

My name is Catherine Castiglioni and I am a Licensed Family Daycare Provider in Clinton, CT. I am writing to ask you to support Senate Bill #1106. My daycare business has been serving children not only in Clinton, but other neighboring towns, for over 27 years now. I provide quality care to 16 part time children during the week. Some are here only before school, after school, or just during the day. Parents come here because they like my reputation and home setting. They know I attend monthly workshops and am a trained Daycare Teacher, not a babysitter. I provide a safe and nurturing setting where kids can begin to learn critical social and academic skills. I offer a daily Curriculum that includes Music, Dance, Story time, Art Activities, Outside and Indoor Free Play.

Unfortunately I know a number of providers within our Second Homes Childcare Association who have had to close. It's becoming increasingly difficult for providers to make ends meet under the current reimbursement system.

There's also the issue of health insurance. There have been times when I have considered closing and taking a job that would provide health care benefits. My closing would impact 10 families which would really be a hardship on them.

Again, I ask you to please support Senate Bill #1106. Quality providers who truly care about children and want to see them succeed shouldn't have to close their doors because of unfair rates and no access to affordable health care.

Thanks for your support,

Catherine Castiglioni  
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